



City of False Pass

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March 4, 2002

Eric Taylor
Alaska Department of Transportation and
Public Facilities
3132 Channel Drive, Room 200
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Mr. Taylor,

The City of False Pass would like to provide some brief comments on the recently released Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan.

The plan recognizes the Alaska Aviation Coordination Council's recommendations for a minimum runway length of 3300 and all-weather approach and landing capacity for all public airports. False Pass doesn't have these minimums but certainly would like to see them implemented. The plan lists airport lighting as an aviation project for False Pass, a project originally submitted. The community subsequently requested, instead, an airport planning project and we have been told that funding will be available for the development of a False Pass airport master plan.

The photograph on page 23 shows the Peter Pan Seafoods docks in False Pass not, as labeled, the False Pass (public) dock.

False Pass supports Option A for ferry service, which provides both westbound and eastbound stops in False Pass and provides two trips every four weeks to the Aleutians.

The most important project for the residents of False Pass is the harbor construction. The plan mentions on page 24 that the feasibility study has been completed but doesn't comment on the design now underway by the Corps. "Coastal Navigation Project" is listed for False Pass under Future Projects. False Pass is confident that federal funds are imminent for construction and wish to see the State funding follow. We believe this project should be moved into the fy03 or fy04 funding cycle.

While we appreciate DOTPF's efforts in developing the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan and we especially appreciate Jack Melton's visit and assistance to our community, we can't help but criticize this document's lack of consideration and reference to the Aleutians East Borough's Transportation Plan.

Thank you for considering our comments on the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan.

Sincerely,

John Nickels
Mayor

Cc: Jack Melton, Anchorage DOTPF